

10/585792

AP20 Rec'd PCT/PTO 12 JUL 2006 NT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re the Application of:

VERKERK ET AL.

Serial No.: Not yet assigned

Filed: Herewith

Atty. File No.: 1704 WO/US

Title: Improvement in the Ligand Protection
for Mercaptoacetyl Triglycine

) Group Art Unit: Not yet assigned

) Examiner: Not yet assigned

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE
IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES
POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN
ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO COMMISSIONER FOR
PATENTS, PO BOX 1450, ALEXANDRIA, VA 22313-
1450 ON JULY 12, 2006.

Barbara A. Krusch
BARBARA A. KRISCH

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

For entry into the U.S. National Stage from the PCT, the above-identified national stage application is concurrently being amended as follows. Claims 16-22 are being added, and Claims 1-15 are being amended. Accordingly, 22 claims (Claims 1-22) are initially being presented for examination. Of those 22 claims, four (Claims 1, 9, 10 and 15) are independent. Thus, the only filing fees believed to be due under 37 CFR 1.16(b) & (c) are a fee for one independent claim in excess of the allotted three, and a fee for two claims in excess of the allotted twenty. Accordingly, please charge a fee of \$300.00 to Deposit Account 13-1160 as the fee for entry of this Preliminary Amendment.

The above-mentioned revisions of the claims are reflected in the listing of the claims which may be found on pages 2-4 of this correspondence. To assist the Office, a clean copy of the presented claims follows on pages 5-7 of this correspondence.

It is believed that this application is in condition for allowance. Accordingly, early notice of allowance is hereby requested. Should the Office believe that a telephone conference would expedite allowance, the Office is invited to contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,
Mallinckrodt Inc.

Jerad G. Seurer

Jerad G. Seurer, Esq.

Reg. No. 45,467

Tel.: (314) 654-3814